



Satellite image with enhanced low cloud-top temperatures (degrees C) for 7:15 a.m. EDT (NOAA)

Agricultural Weather Highlights - Friday - July 26, 2002

- C ***In the West***, isolated showers in the ***Rocky Mountain region*** continue to ease local irrigation demands. Meanwhile in the ***Northwest***, very warm, dry weather favors the development of irrigated summer crops but is maintaining the threat of additional wildfire activity and adversely affecting dryland agriculture.
- C ***On the Plains***, slightly cooler air and isolated showers are overspreading the ***northern half of the region***, although most dryland summer crops are in need of additional rainfall. Across the ***southern half of the Plains***, where high temperatures are forecast to range from 95 to 100 degrees F, hot weather is increasing moisture demands of summer crops
- C ***In the Corn Belt***, beneficial showers are scattered across the region, locally boosting topsoil moisture reserves and easing stress on reproductive to filling corn and soybeans. Today's high temperatures are forecast to generally range from 85 to 90 degrees F.
- C ***In the South***, scattered showers continue to aid pastures and rain-fed summer crops from the ***central Gulf Coast region to the Carolinas and mid-Atlantic***. Hot weather persists in the ***western Gulf Coast region***, where today's high temperatures will again approach 100 degrees F at inland locations.

Outlook: Over the weekend, heat and humidity will spread from the ***Great Plains*** into the ***Corn Belt, Mid Atlantic, and New England States***. The unsettled weather in the ***East*** will increase the likelihood of showers and thunderstorms, with periods of rain most likely across the ***Delta, Southeast, and southern Mid Atlantic States***. Mostly dry conditions are expected in the ***southern Plains, Great Basin, and Pacific Northwest***, while monsoon showers persist in the ***Southwest***. The NWS 6-10 day outlook for July 31 - August 4 calls for warmer-than-normal temperatures in the ***eastern two-thirds of the Nation*** and cooler-than-normal temperatures along the ***West Coast***. Above-normal rainfall is forecast for the ***northern Rockies, northern Plains, and Southeast Coast*** while below-normal rainfall is expected for portions of the ***Southwest***.

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